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Nova experiments on hydrodynamics and instabilities in the solid

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Rubenchik,⁵ ¹LLNL, ²Univ. of Belfast, ³Oxford Univ., ⁴LANL,
⁵Univ. of California-Davis . We have started experiments on the
Nova Laser to investigate the evolution of hydrodynamic instabilities
such as the Richtmyer-Meshkov (RM) and Rayleigh-Taylor (RT)
instabilities in the solid state. The RT dispersion curve is predicted to
be strongly stabilized in the solid-state plastic flow regime, compared
to the liquid state, but essentially no data at pressures above ~1 Mbar
exist. We will present initial results from experiments focused on
characterizing the state of samples of single-crystal Si as it gets
compressed, while remaining in the solid state. We will also describe
our experimental design for measuring the RT dispersion curve for
solid-state foils such as Cu, and present initial results if available.

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